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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT West Bohemian Uranium Mines in Horni Vernerovice

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REPORT NO.

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1. The Bohumil mine of the West Bohemian Uranium Mines in Horni Vernerovice near Trutnov was reopened in 1947 and produces uranium ore. Until 1947, the mine was not in use. This mine is subordinated to the directorate of the Uranium Mines in Jachymov. For location see Enclosure (A) map Trutnov 37567.
2. The mine has five stories. The uranium ore is being mined only in four stories as the fifth story is flooded with water. The water is 140 meters deep. At fourth story level, the mine reaches a depth of 480 meters. The entrance to the mine has a slope and leads to the first story. It is a corridor with rail tracks for the uranium ore. The mine has eight tracks driven by electricity for the hauling of uranium ore; four of them are main tracks; the other four are auxiliary tracks.
3. Uranium ore is stored in two heaps on the surface in the open. From these heaps, the ore is transported to the railway station in Janovice and forwarded further to Jachymov. The ore is sorted in Jachymov. A road runs from the Bokumil mine to the railroad station at Janovice and the mine has 31 tracks for the transportation of the ore from the mine to the railway station. For location of road see point 17 of Enclosure (B)7. From the first heap, the ore is transported to the railway station in Janovice by 15 trucks See point 15 of Enclosure (B)7. These trucks work in three shifts. From the second heap the ore is transported to the station by 16 trucks; these trucks work in one shift, from 6 a m to 2 p m.
4. Production in the Bohumil mine reaches approximately 1,000 lorries per shift. During the three shifts, the production reaches 3,000 lorries, each of them weighing 15 quintals. The total output in three shifts is thus 45,000 quintals of uranium ore. According to the information from the mine circles, the quality of the uranium ore is good.
5. The directorate of the Bohumil mine is located in the plant. The manager of the mine is Mr Perina, engineer, of Russian nationality, 36 years old, height 187 centimeters, medium build, black curly hair, speaks Czech but with a definite accent. He is a devoted member of the Communist Party and not friendly to the workers.
6. The total number of workers is 780 persons, of which number 570 men and six women work under the surface. The number of administrative and technical employees is 25 persons.

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7. Miners work in three shifts. The highest wage of a miner working on piece wage is 20,000 crowns per month; the average wage reaches 15,000 crowns per month. The lowest wage level is 3,000 crowns per month.
8. The total number of Communist Party members devoted to the Party is approximately 15% of the total. These persons are mostly employees in good jobs or Communist Party functionaries. The rest of the employees are either without political affiliation or are Communist Party members merely on paper.
9. As a security measure, this plant has 10 factory guards armed with pistols. In addition, the plant has its own factory militia composed of the mine workers. During each shift, 15 men of the factory militia are on duty; the militia members are armed with rifles and submachine guns. The militia is entrusted with the task of guarding the mine.
10. Electric current is supplied by the power plant in Porici and Kvalis. The mine machinery is driven either by electricity or compressed air.
11. The workers are deeply dissatisfied with the present regime. Their resentment is directed primarily against the workers' council and shock-workers who are being made responsible for all the evils which have befallen the workers. Communistic propaganda in the mine is extraordinarily strong. The Communist Party has the factory broadcast at its disposal; they display posters and distribute leaflets, but to little avail. The workers do not take this propaganda seriously and laugh about everything.
12. In the vicinity of the Bohumil mine new uranium ore mines were opened recently. In the sector shown in Enclosure (A), map Trutnov 3756, under point 2, a new pit was opened on 15 Apr 52. In the pit approximately 50 miners are working, most of them having been brought from Jachymov. The informant himself had the opportunity to visit the area of the new pit and noticed that further testing of the soil was being carried out. Technical experts were being brought to this area by automobiles.
13. In the sector shown in the enclosed map Trutnov 3756, under point 3, another pit was opened. The work in the pit began on 2 May 52. The total number of miners working in the new pit was approximately 30 persons.

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ENCLOSURE (A): Map Trutnov 3756 with legend.

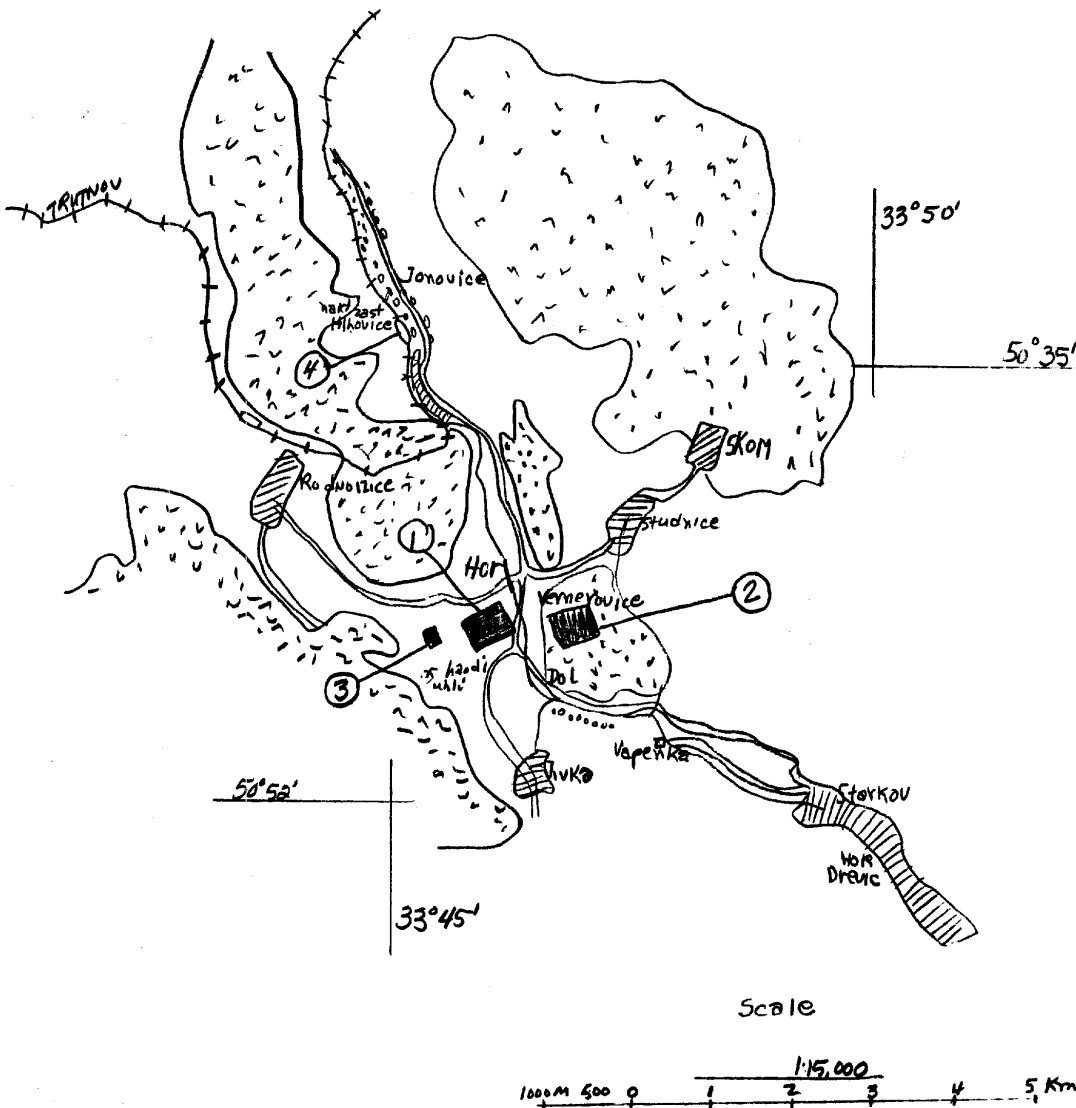
(B): Detailed plan of Uranium Ore Mine Bohumil with legend

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ENCLOSURE (A)

TRUTNOV 3756



Military Geographic Institute
in Prague

LEGEND

1. Area in which is located the uranium ore mine Bohumil [See the detailed plan in Enclosure (B)]
2. Area in which new uranium ore mines were opened; the work began there on April 15, 1952.
3. Newly opened pits of uranium ore; the work began there on 2 May 52.
4. The railway station in Janovice where the uranium ore is being loaded from truck on freight cars and transported to Jachymov.

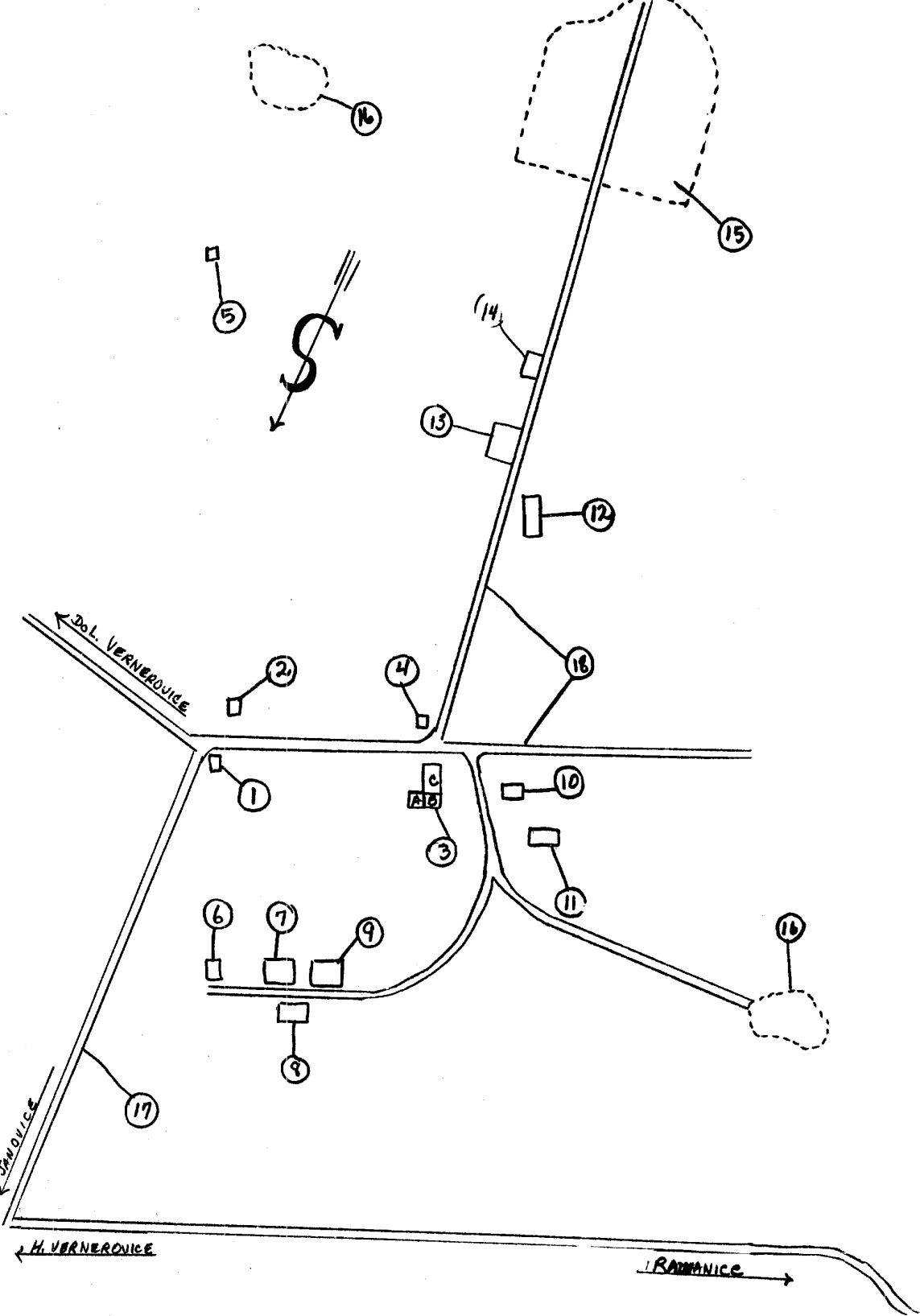
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Uranium Ore Bohumil in Vernerovice near Trutnov



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ENCLOSURE (B)

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LEGEND

1. Gatekeepers' lodge: a ground-floor wooden barrack covered with a tar paper roof, size 5 x 4 meters. At the gate guards are stationed both day and night; the guards consist of two members of the factory guards, armed with submachine guns and pistols. Here is also the main entrance to the mine where the miners have to show their cards. If a visitor wants to enter the mine, he must have his identification card.
2. Offices: a ground-floor wooden barrack covered with a tar paper roof, size 6 x 5 meters. Here the miners receive coal rations from the management of the mine.
3. A ground-floor brick house, size 11 x 10 x 5 meters.
 - (a) Locksmith's workshop
 - (b) Electrotechnical workshop
 - (c) Forge
4. Electric power transformer, a house built of bricks, size 5 x 5 x 7 meters.
5. Ventilation shaft and emergency exit from the mine. Size of the exit is 7 x 7 meters; the shaft is 380 meters deep. In the pit are steel ladders. Over the shaft is a roof fixed on wooden poles.
6. A ground-floor brick building, size 6 x 5 meters with 15 men of factory militia on duty; the men are armed with rifles and submachine guns.
7. A ground-floor brick barrack covered with a tar paper roof; size 11 x 9 meters. In this building are housed the administration offices of the Bohumil mine.
8. A barrack housing offices.
9. A barrack housing offices of the mine engineer.
10. Storehouse of carbide and mine lamps; a ground-floor wooden barrack covered with a tar paper roof, size 10 x 8 meters.
11. Bath rooms for men and women; a ground-floor brick house covered with a brick roof, size 12 x 9 meters.
12. A ground-floor brick house covered with tiles, size 15 x 8 meters. In this house are located compressors for the production of compressed air. The number of compressors is six machines, all made in Kutna Hora.
13. Main entrance to the mine. The entrance is 10 meters wide and six meters high. The corridor has a slope and ends on the first story of the mine Bohumil. This entrance is used by the miners entering and leaving work. In the corridor are six tracks for lorries serving for the transportation of the uranium ore.
14. Gasoline and oil depot built in the rock. The entrance is an iron gate.
15. Main heap of the uranium ore stored in the open. The produced ore is stored there and later transported to the railway station in Janovice.
16. The two other auxiliary heaps of the uranium ore stored in the open.
17. A road connecting the mine with the road Radvanice - Horni Vernerovice and Janovice. This road serves for the transportation of the uranium ore from the mine Bohumil to the railway station in Janovice.

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